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December 9, 1904 2522

Mortuary statistics of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

During the week ended the 30th ultimo there were in all 332 deaths. Of this number none were caused by yellow fever, nor were there any cases of this disease. Plague caused 18 deaths, of which number 13 occurred in the plague hospital and 5 occurred in 3 districts of the city proper. There were 44 cases of this disease reported during the week. Variola caused 72 deaths, of which number 39 occurred in hospital São Sebastião, and the remainder in 7 of the 13 districts into which the city is divided. There were 246 cases of this disease during this period. At the close of the week there were 117 cases of plague at Jurajuba hospital and 284 cases of variola in São Sebastião.

There were no deaths from measles, scarlet fever, or choleraic diseases of children. Whooping cough caused 2 deaths; diphtheria, 2; grippe, 9; typhoid fever, 1; dysentery, 1; beriberi, 1; leprosy, 1;

malarial fevers, 8; and tuberculosis, 47.

Of the total deaths, 194 occurred among males, 270 among natives, and 62 among foreigners. By localities the deaths occurred as follows: In domiciles, etc., 219; in civil hospitals, 73; in military hospitals, 4; in Santa Casa de Misericordia, 31; in asylums, convents, etc., 1; in vessels in port, none, and in localities unknown, 4. By ages, as follows: Less than 1 year old, 59; more than 1 and less than 5 years, 48; 5 to 10, 17; 10 to 20, 26; 20 to 30, 57; 30 to 40, 36; 40 to 50, 35; 50 to 60, 22; more than 60 years of age, 32. The daily average of deaths was 47.42, in comparison with 55.71 for the preceding week and with 51.11 for the corresponding week last year. This gives an annual coefficient for each 1,000 of the population—reckoned at 850,000—of 20.42.

The highest range of the thermometer was on the 25th ultimo, 25° C., and the lowest on the 30th ultimo, 18.5° C., with an average for the week of 21.30° C. The total rainfall was 37.63 mm.; daily average, 5.37 mm.

Births, 263; marriages, 49.

During the week ended the 6th instant there were in all 392 deaths from all causes. Of this number there were 2 due to yellow fever, the first deaths from that disease since the week ended September 11, 1904. Both of these deaths occurred in city districts. There were no other cases. Plague has suffered an amelioration during the week, there having been only 18 cases and 10 deaths. Variola caused 103 deaths, with 181 cases. In the plague hospital at the end of the week there were 105 cases, and in the Hospital São Sebastião there were 253 cases of variola.

There were no deaths from measles and scarlet fever, diphtheria, or diseases of children of choleraic form. Whooping cough caused 1 death; grippe, 7; typhoid fever, 3; dysentery, 3; beriberi, 2; leprosy,

1; malarial fevers, 14, and tuberculosis, 56.

Two hundred and thirty seven of the deaths were among males, 316 among natives, 73 among foreigners, and 3 among persons of unknown nationality. Both of the cases and deaths from yellow fever were among foreigners. By ages the deaths were divided as follows: Less than 1 year of age, 69; more than 1 and up to 5 years, 58; 5 to 10, 14; 10 to 20, 32; 20 to 30, 77; 30 to 40, 36; 40 to 50, 39; 50 to 60, 27; more than 60 years of age, 40. By localities, in domiciles, etc., 244;

2523 December 9, 1904

in civil hospitals, 88; in military hospitals, 5; in Santa Casa de Misericordia, 48; in asylums, convents, etc., 4; in vessels in port, 0; in unknown localities, 3.

The daily average of deaths was 56, in comparison with 47.42 during the previous week and with 44.71 for the corresponding week of 1903. This number gives an annual coefficient per 1,000 of the population—reckoned at 850,000—of 24.11.

The highest range of the thermometer was on the 4th instant, 24.3° C., and the lowest on the 31st ultimo, 18.1° C., and the average for the week was 21.23° C. The total rainfall was 15.11 and the average daily fall was 2.15 mm.

During the week there were 41 marriages and 300 births recorded in the office of the registrar.

Plague hospital at Jurajuba, State of Rio de Janeiro.

On Sunday, the 6th instant, accompanied by Mr. Chamberlain, the vice and deputy consul-general of the United States in Brazil, I made a visit to the plague hospital at Jurajuba, across the bay, about one hour by steam launch. At the date of my visit there were 105 patients in the hospital. Having some months ago made a report upon this hospital, I have nothing more to add, except that it was in as good order and as well managed at this time, when it is well filled, as it was at the date of my former visit, when there were some 7 cases in hospital.

Much use of intraperitoneal injections has been made there lately with very good results, the serum acting in a very prompt and satisfactory manner. I saw several cases of a cutaneous variety which I had never seen before in other countries; these cases were, as a rule, the worst and most rapidly fatal. The majority of cases are, however, of the bubonic form, with a very few of the pneumonic variety.

Almost 20 per cent of the cases were children, and at least 40 per cent were women and children. One singular fact—noticed at once by myself and concurred in by the physician in charge of the hospital—was that the women patients, as a rule, seemed to be of a better class of life than the male patients. I saw some cases among the upper classes of both sexes, however, and some cases that had been very serious. The serum used is manufactured in this city at the Pasteur Institute and is most satisfactory.

In my next report I will send a résumé of the plague situation here in this city since the beginning of this year with tabulated figures of cases and deaths.

I inclose a newspaper clipping relative to the visit of the French and German yellow-fever commissions to this city this year. The German commission was not a Government one as was the French, but was sent out by the city of Hamburg, as previously reported to your office.

Case on Austria not plague.

Referring to my dispatch of date of the 1st instant as to the removal of 1 case of suspicious illness from the British bark *Austria*, after proper examination of this sailor it was found that he was not suffering from bubonic plague, and he was therefore removed to another hospital.